

Appl. No. 09/177,960
Amendment and/or Response
Reply to Office action of 3 March 2003

Page 3 of 12

Amendments to the Claims:

A listing of the entire set of pending claims (including amendments to the claims, if any) is submitted herewith per 37 CFR 1.121. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An information processing system comprising:

a display,

a processor that is configured to:

display a first sequence of first icons in a first field on the display in a first timed loop wherein the first field is configured to contain a single first icon as a currently displayed first icon, and

repeatedly make the currently displayed first icon selectable, and
selecting means, arranged for selecting the ~~selectable~~ currently displayed first icon,
wherein,

upon selection of the ~~selectable~~ currently displayed first icon,

the processor is further configured to:

terminate the first timed loop while continuing to display the currently
displayed and selected first icon in the first field,

display, in a second field on the display that is distinct from the first field, a
second sequence of second icons in a timed loop wherein the second field is configured to
contain a single second icon as a currently displayed second icon, while the selected first icon
is displayed in the first field, and

repeatedly make the currently displayed second icon selectable, and

the selecting means is further arranged for selecting the ~~selectable~~ currently displayed
second icon, and

upon selection of the currently displayed second icon,

the processor is further configured to:

terminate the second timed loop while continuing to display the currently
displayed and selected icon in the second field.

Appl. No. 09/177,960
Amendment and/or Response
Reply to Office action of 3 March 2003

Page 4 of 12

2. (Currently amended) An information processing system as claimed in Claim 1, wherein, upon selection of the ~~selectable~~displayed first icon,

the processor is further configured to

display an information item in an output field on the display that is distinct from the first field and the second field.

3. (Currently amended) An information processing system as claimed in Claim 1, wherein, upon selection of the ~~selectable~~displayed second icon,

the processor is further configured to:

~~terminate the second timed loop while continuing to display the currently displayed and selected second icon, and~~

display an information item in an output field on the display that is distinct from the first and second fields.

4. (Previously presented) An information processing system as claimed in Claim 2, wherein the information item comprises a sequence of information sub-items in a third timed loop.

Appl. No. 09/177,960
Amendment and/or Response
Reply to Office action of 3 March 2003

Page 5 of 12

5. (Currently amended) A method for enabling a user to select icons from a hierarchy of sets of icons, comprising:

sequentially displaying each icon of a first set of icons ~~from~~ corresponding to a first level of the hierarchy of icons in a first timed loop in a first field on a display wherein the first field is configured to contain a single first icon as a currently displayed first icon,

repeatedly making the currently displayed first icon in the first ~~predetermined~~ field a selectable first icon,

detecting a selection of the ~~selectable-currently displayed~~ first icon, and,

upon detection of the selection of the ~~selectable-currently displayed~~ first icon,

terminating the first timed loop and continuing the display of the currently displayed first icon in the first field,

displaying each icon of a second set of icons ~~from~~ corresponding to a second level of the hierarchy, corresponding to the first icon, in a second timed loop in a second field on the display while the first icon is displayed in the first field, the second field being distinct from the first ~~defined~~ field, wherein the second field is configured to contain a single second icon as a currently displayed second icon,

repeatedly making the currently displayed second icon in the second ~~predetermined~~ field a selectable second icon, and

detecting a selection of the ~~selectable-currently displayed~~ second icon, and,

upon detection of the selection of the currently displayed second icon,

terminating the second timed loop and continuing the display of the currently displayed second icon in the second field.

6. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in Claim 5, further comprising

displaying, upon selection of the selectable first icon, an information item in an output field on the display that is distinct from the first ~~defined~~ field and the second field.

Appl. No. 09/177,960
Amendment and/or Response
Reply to Office action of 3 March 2003

Page 6 of 12

7. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in Claim 5, further comprising:
upon selection of the selectable second icon,
~~terminating the second timed loop and continuing the display of the second icon, and~~
displaying an information item in an output field on the display that is distinct from
the first and second ~~defined~~ fields.
8. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in Claim 6, wherein
the information item comprises a plurality of information sub-items displayed in a
third timed loop.
9. (Previously presented) An information processing system as claimed in Claim 3, wherein
the information item comprises a sequence of information sub-items displayed in a
timed loop.
10. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in Claim 7, wherein
the information item comprises a plurality of information sub-items displayed in a
timed loop.
11. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in Claim 5, further comprising:
displaying each icon of successive sets of icons from the hierarchy, corresponding to
selectable successive icons, in successive timed loops in successive fields on the display, and
detecting a selection of each selectable successive icon,
wherein
each successive field is distinct from each other successive field and from the first and
second fields.
12. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in Claim 12, further comprising
terminating each successive timed loop as each selectable successive icon is selected,
while continuing to display each selected successive icon in each successive field.

Appl. No. 09/177,960
Amendment and/or Response
Reply to Office action of 3 March 2003

Page 7 of 12

13. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in Claim 5, further comprising:
partitioning the display into distinct display fields, and
allocating two of the distinct display fields to form the first and second fields of the display.
14. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in Claim 5, wherein
each of the first and second fields of the display has a size that is independent of a quantity of icons in each of the first and second sets of icons,
thereby allowing each icon of each of the first and second sets of icons to be sized independent of the quantity of icons in each of the first and second sets of icons.
15. (Previously presented) An information processing system as claimed in Claim 1, wherein
the processor is further configured to progressively display other selectable icons in timed loops in other fields on the display as the selectable icons are progressively selected,
wherein
each of the other fields is distinct from each other and from the first and second fields.
16. (Previously presented) An information processing system as claimed in Claim 1, wherein
each of the first and second fields has a size that is independent of a quantity of first and second selectable icons.

Appl. No. 09/177,960
Amendment and/or Response
Reply to Office action of 3 March 2003

Page 8 of 12

17. (Currently amended) A method of displaying icons from a hierarchy of sets of icons, comprising:

sequentially displaying each icon of a first set of icons in a first field of a display wherein the first field is configured to contain a single first icon as a currently displayed first icon,

identifying each currently displayed icon in the first field as a first icon,
identifying a second set of icons in the hierarchy corresponding to the first icon, and
sequentially displaying each icon of the second set of icons in a second field of the display, the second field being distinct from the first field,

such that the first icon is persistently displayed in the first field while the second set of icons are sequentially displayed in the second field.

18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17, further including

facilitating a user selection of a currently displayed icon in at least one of the first field and the second field, and

terminating the corresponding sequential display to continually display the selected currently displayed icon.

19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17, further including

partitioning a display area of the display to define at least the first field and the second field.

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17, further including

displaying an information item that is associated with the currently displayed icon in the second field in another field that is distinct from the first field and the second field.